

Remarks:

In the Office Action, the drawings are objected to as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The claims recite processes which are fully discussed in the specification with reference to the attached drawings. In other words, the processes can be understood with reference to the drawings. Therefore, Applicants believe that the claimed features are shown in the attached drawings.

The claims are objected to under 35 U.S.C., second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In the above amendment, the original claims are cancelled and new claims 24-43 are added. Applicants believe that new claims 24-43 obviate the claim objection.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Oshima et al. Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims are not anticipated by Oshima et al.

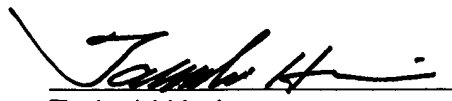
The present invention is directed to a vehicle in which the respective four wheels can be independently controlled or steered. In such a vehicle, it is very important to prevent the toe-in/out phenomenon from occurring while the vehicle is in motion to avoid an accident or damages. In the present invention, when a steering command value is changed from S_1 to S_2 to thereby change the steering angles of the wheels, the steering angles α_1 , α_2 , α_3 , and α_4 are controlled such that they will satisfy the steering constraint conditions equations. This can be made possible by detecting a steering angle conformance when a steering command value is changed from S_1 to S_2 . More specifically, in the present invention, when a steering command value is changed from S_1 to S_2 , an incremental steering value is repeatedly added. Each time the incremental steering value is added, a steering angle conformance is detected to make sure that the steering angles will satisfy the steering constraint conditions equations.

This feature is not disclosed in Oshima et al. Therefore, the claims should be allowable over Oshima et al.

Respectfully submitted,

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Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610
(312)321-4200


Tadashi Horie
Registration No. 40,437
Attorney for Applicant